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U. S. S. R. CROP STUDY

I. USSR Food Study

A. The Agricultural Environment of the USSR

1. Farm vs Urban Population
2. Climate
3. Government Supervision
4. Extent of Mechanization
5. Fertilizer Use

Notes: Comparisons of USSR vs U.S., where appropriate, would help in understanding the relative position of the USSR.

B. Types of Foods and Importance of Each (General Survey).

C. Flexibility of Food Supply (Extent to which the supply of various crops, etc., could be increased in the same crop year and in subsequent crop years).

D. Estimates USSR Food Reserves 1952-54.

E. Food Exports and Imports

1. Current Pattern
2. Potential of Soviet Orbit (USSR European Satellites, China).
3. Potential of Western Europe and the Middle East in the Event the Soviets Overrun these Areas.

II. Experience of the USSR During Periods of Food Shortages

A. Peacetime Food Shortages Since 1920?

1. Extent of Shortages Due to Crop Failures, etc.
2. Soviet Methods of Handling Shortages

a. Rural Population

b. Urban Population

OSD Declassification/Release  
Instructions on File

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B. World War II Food Shortages

1. Extent
2. Methods of Handling
3. Population Reactions

III. Present (1952-54) USSR Caloric Intake and Estimated Effects of Reducing Food Supplies

A. Caloric Intake 1952-54

B. Estimated Effects of Lowering Present Caloric Intake by 10, 20 and 40 per cent.

1. Regional Impact
2. Impact on Urban Population
3. Impact on Armed Forces

IV. Wheat in the USSR

A. Types Grown and Importance of Each

B. Growing Areas, Planting and Harvesting Times.

Notes: Maps would be helpful here, as would typical crop patterns in likely Target Areas.

C. Susceptibility of Various Types of Wheat to Rust.

Notes: Point here is to determine whether or not one variety of stem rust (or a very few varieties) could infect all major wheat areas; and importance of timing to attack.

D. Extent of Rust Spore Spread by Wind from a Point of Infection; North-South and East-West.

E. Countermeasures Which Could be Taken by the Soviets After Infection.

F. Estimated Crop Reduction from Various Degrees of Infection.

V. Rye in the USSR

A. Types Grown and Importance of Each

B. Growing Areas, Planting and Harvesting Times

Notes: Maps would be helpful here, as would typical crop patterns in likely Target Areas.

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C. Susceptibility of Various Types of Wheat to Rust

Note: Point here is to determine whether or not one variety of stem rust (or a very few varieties) could infect all major rye areas; and importance of timing to attack.

D. Extent of Rust Spore Spread by Wind from a Point of Infection; North-South and East-West.

E. Countermeasures Which Could be Taken by the Soviets after Infection.

F. Estimated Crop Reduction from Various Degrees of Infection

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